

**2005 APPROVED**  
**WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE**  
**for the**  
**COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

The Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee was created by the Legislative Council on May 9, 2005.

**Membership**

Rep. Joseph Cervantes, Co-Chair  
Sen. Cisco McSorley, Co-Chair  
Sen. Rod Adair  
Rep. Thomas A. Anderson  
Rep. Gail C. Beam  
Sen. Carroll H. Leavell  
Sen. Richard C. Martinez

Rep. Al Park  
Sen. Lidio G. Rainaldi  
Sen. H. Diane Snyder  
Sen. Leonard Tsosie  
Rep. Peter Wirth  
Rep. Eric A. Youngberg

**Advisory Members**

Sen. Ben D. Altamirano  
Rep. Hector H. Balderas  
Sen. Kent L. Cravens  
Sen. Mary Jane M. Garcia  
Sen. John T.L. Grubescic  
Sen. Clinton D. Harden, Jr.  
Sen. Gay G. Kernan  
Rep. W. Ken Martinez  
Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino

Rep. Greg Payne  
Sen. William H. Payne  
Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Culbert  
Sen. John C. Ryan  
Sen. Michael S. Sanchez  
Rep. Sheryl Williams Stapleton  
Rep. Mimi Stewart  
Rep. Thomas E. Swisstack  
Sen. James G. Taylor

**Work Plan**

During the 2005 interim, as time permits and as directed by the Legislative Council, the committee proposes to:

- A. hear presentations from the judiciary and court administrators on:
- 1) specialized courts, including adult and juvenile drug courts and mental health courts;
  - 2) domestic violence special commissioners;
  - 3) mediation and alternative dispute resolution programs;
  - 4) guardian ad litem issues in domestic relations cases;
  - 5) provision of court and district attorney facilities by counties;

- 6) unified budget and legislative initiatives;
- 7) pre-trial pleas and the early plea program in Bernalillo County; and
- 8) the jury system and how jury members are treated;

B. examine, oversee and monitor issues related to corrections and correctional facilities as follows:

- 1) population control efforts and options for additional bed space;
- 2) treatment programs and their impact on recidivism;
- 3) opiate replacement therapy for inmates;
- 4) caseloads of probation and parole officers;
- 5) complaints of inmates and responses from institutions;
- 6) fees to counties for holding state prisoners; and
- 7) causes of rising jail and prison populations;

C. examine issues relating to criminal justice as follows:

- 1) driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs (DWI):
  - a) record-keeping problems in tracking prior DWI offenses through MVD;
  - b) Albuquerque's DWI ordinance;
  - c) information technology system in Bernalillo County to identify and lower dismissal rate for DWI; and
  - d) ignition interlock and people who must drive as a part of their job;
- 2) domestic violence:
  - a) treatment of domestic violence offenders before prosecution and upon conviction;
  - b) whether treatment providers for domestic violence offenders are meeting statutory requirements;
  - c) how the Domestic Violence Offender Treatment Fund is working;
  - d) implementation of domestic violence victim notification program;
  - e) whether to require the abuser to leave the house rather than the victim and children; and

f) costs and impact of domestic violence on transportation, housing and shelter accommodations;

3) FY 2004 data report on the NM criminal justice system;

4) financing criminal justice - report from the Supreme Court Criminal Justice

Task Force;

5) the use of stun or TASER guns by law enforcement officers;

6) truth in sentencing and updates on sentencing at the federal and state level;

7) disparity in sentencing between powder and crack cocaine;

8) relationship between immigration and state and federal law enforcement;

9) revision of fees for public defender contracts with defense attorneys;

10) formation of commission to oversee the Public Defender Department; and

11) seriousness of offenders on the sex offender web site;

D. examine juvenile and youth issues as follows:

1) update from the Children, Youth and Families Department on juvenile justice services, rehabilitation, treatment, community services, mental health and other juvenile and delinquency issues;

2) reports on community programs such as the juvenile justice continuum of services in the Sixth Judicial District;

3) meet with youth group leaders on gangs, drugs and issues relevant to youth;

4) school attendance and enforcement of truancy programs;

5) reports from Youth Development, Inc., and Metro Assessment Treatment Service Center;

6) examine gender equity issues in the juvenile system;

7) examine need for residential mental health treatment facility for girls (like Sequoyah for boys);

8) report from UNM Law School Ombudsman Program for juvenile facilities;

9) examine revision of children's mental health and developmental disability article;

10) look at the impact of methamphetamine on juveniles; and

- 11) visit Springer and Camp Sierra Blanca;
- E. examine the feasibility of salary increases for:
  - 1) juvenile and adult probation and parole officers;
  - 2) social workers;
  - 3) corrections officers;
  - 4) county sheriffs (minimum pay is set in statute); and
  - 5) state crime laboratory analysts;
- F. examine whether to extend term limits for sheriffs to four consecutive terms;
- G. look at improving the State Crime Laboratory;
- H. examine the Department of Public Safety's compensation plan;
- I. look at compensation to surface landowners for damage caused by oil and gas operations;
- J. review environmental standards for air and water quality, and enforcement of environmental permits, standards and regulations;
- K. examine the legal issues for the state in light of the supreme court ruling on the medical use of cannabis;
- L. receive an update on state water rights and water adjudication in southern New Mexico;
- M. receive reports on payday loan legislation and election reform;
- N. hear recommendations on reducing uninsured motorists among low-income populations;
- O. examine whether to require notification to beneficiaries of wills and trusts before death of testator;

P. review legislation from the New Mexico Sentencing Commission and the Corrections Department that did not pass in the 2005 session;

Q. examine related issues as appropriate; and

R. recommend legislation or changes in existing law to the legislature.

#### **2005 APPROVED MEETING SCHEDULE**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 9	Santa Fe
July 18-19	Las Vegas (7/18) Springer (7/19)
August 22-23	Camp Sierra Blanca
September 21-22	Las Cruces
October 17-18	Santa Fe
November 28-29	Santa Fe